

**Wednesday, July 7, 2010**

## **AGRI-BUSINESS ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES ENDORSEMENTS**

The Michigan Agri-Business Association announced endorsements Wednesday for the U.S. House and Legislature.

The endorsements are for the primary and general election.

Many of the endorsements were safe choices, backing incumbents heavily favored to win re-election. For the U.S. House, the group endorsed four members of the state's 15-member delegation: U.S. Rep. David Camp (R-Midland), [U.S. Rep. John Dingell](#) (D-Dearborn), [U.S. Rep. Candice Miller](#) (R-Harrison Twp.) and [U.S. Rep. Mike Rogers](#) (R-Brighton).

For the state House, the group mostly endorsed incumbents although five non-incumbent candidates - Republican [Sen. Jud Gilbert](#) (R-Algonac) in the 81<sup>st</sup> District, Democrat Jeff Irwin of Ann Arbor in the 53<sup>rd</sup> District, Democrat Brian Elder of Bay City in the 96<sup>th</sup> District, Republican Joel Johnson of Clare in the 97<sup>th</sup> District and Republican Linda Howard of Remus in the 102<sup>nd</sup> District - got the group's nod. If Mr. Johnson wins his primary, he also faces a tough general election match-up against the Democratic nominee.

The group backed the following House incumbents: [Rep. Andrew Kandrevas](#) (D-Southgate), [Rep. Ellen Cogen Lipton](#) (D-Huntington Woods), [Rep. Jennifer Haase](#) (D-Richmond), [Rep. Kate Ebli](#) (D-Monroe), [Rep. Kate Segal](#) (D-Battle Creek), [Rep. Barb Byrum](#) (D-Onondaga), [Rep. Mike Huckleberry](#) (D-Greenville), [Rep. Terry Brown](#) (D-Pigeon), [Rep. Judy Nerat](#) (D-Wallace), Rep. Steve Lindberg (D-Marquette), [Rep. Marty Knollenberg](#) (R-Troy), [Rep. Cindy Denby](#) (R-Fowlerville), Rep. Ken Kurtz (R-Coldwater), [Rep. Matt Lori](#) (R-Constantine), [Rep. James Bolger](#) (R-Marshall), [Rep. Bill Rogers](#) (R-Brighton), Rep. Dave Agema (R-Grandville), [Rep. Sharon Tyler](#) (R-Niles), [Rep. Kevin Daley](#) (R-Arcadia Twp.), Rep. Joe Haveman (R-Holland), [Rep. Paul Opsommer](#) (R-DeWitt), Rep. Ken Horn (R-Frankenmuth) and [Rep. Wayne Schmidt](#) (R- Traverse City).

However, in the Senate, the group waded into more competitive contests. It endorsed [Rep. Tory Rocca](#) (R-Sterling Heights) in the 10<sup>th</sup> District, Rep. Bruce Caswell (R-Hillsdale) in the 16<sup>th</sup> District, [Rep. John Proos](#) (R-St. Joseph) in the 21<sup>st</sup> District, former Rep. Joe Hune (R-Hamburg Twp.) in the 22<sup>nd</sup> District, [Rep. Rick Jones](#) (R-Grand Ledge) in the 24<sup>th</sup> District, House [Minority Floor Leader Dave Hildenbrand](#) (R-Lowell) in the 29<sup>th</sup> District, [Rep. Arlan Meekhof](#) (R-West Olive) in the 30<sup>th</sup> District, [Sen. Roger Kahn](#) (R-Saginaw Twp.) in the 32<sup>nd</sup> District, [Rep. Goeff Hansen](#) (R-Hart) in the 34<sup>th</sup> District, [Rep. Darwin Booher](#) (R-Evart) in the 35<sup>th</sup> District, former Rep. Howard Walker (R-Traverse City) in the 37<sup>th</sup> District, [Rep. Jeff Mayes](#) (D-Bay City) in the 31<sup>st</sup> District, former Rep. Morris Hood III (D-Detroit) in the 3<sup>rd</sup> District, [Rep. George Cushingberry Jr.](#) (D-Detroit) in the 4<sup>th</sup> District and Rep. Rebecca Warren (D-Ann Arbor) in the 18<sup>th</sup> District.

Others with minimal opposition to re-election, like [Sen. Randy Richardville](#) (R-Monroe), Sen. Mike Nofs (R-Battle Creek) and [Sen. John Gleason](#) (D-Flushing) also got the group's nod.